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Mondilange

Overview

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Introduction

What's Mondilange?

Mondilange is an **engineered language**.

Mondilange is made of words from **all linguistic groups** of the Earth.

Mondilange is aimed to be **politically correct**.

Mondilange learning must be **instructive** on **world cultures**.

Mondilange is as easily pronounceable as **Tokipona**.

Mondilange can be as logical as **Lojban**.

Mondilange has most of its words' functions identified by its ending, like '''Esperanto**.**

Mondilange is not designed to be *untouchable*. People are encouraged to contribute, to make variations or to use its concepts in their own conlangs. If **Mondilange** got widely used someday, the speakers will have to create an organization to state official rules.

Building rules

(1) Take into account words from as many languages as possible.

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As European international languages, we already have Interlingua, Esp
Naturally, many words will have their form much modified in order to
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(2) Equilibrate analogy and differentiation.

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For instance, "I" should have in its form some similarity to "you", b
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(3) Try to make more common phonetic errors not much important to comprehension.

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Some people can't distinguish /f/ from /v/, /l/ from /r/, /ua/ from /
```

Frequently asked questions

Is Mondilange intended to be a Science Fiction Language?

Not primarily, but feel free to use it in your book. And let me be aware of it by sending me an e-mail: leolucas1980@yahoo.com.br.

Is Mondilange intended to be an International Auxiliary Language?

English is already the IAL *de facto*. Anyway, if someday humanity decides to use an engineered language, I am not against Mondilange being one of the candidates.

Why do you think choosing roots from all these obscure languages make your language easier?

No. It's a way of celebrating language diversity. Mondilange has a simple phonetic structure, so difficult latin words as *stricto* or even non-widespread consonantal encounter as *lf* in *wolf* are not possible, then it's a natural step to get the most suitable words from each language. Learning Mondilange should always be a virtual cultural tour.

Sounds

Mondilange has relatively few sounds, and there are five pairs of interchangeable consonants, so that many alphabets (Latin, Greek, Cyrilic, etc.) or syllabaries (Japanese, Amharic, etc.) can be used to represent its sounds.

Vowels

a, e, i, o, u: basic vowels, pronounced approximately as in Spanish, Japanese,

etc.

Diphthongs

ai, ei, oi, au, ou, eu: each one pronounced as diphthong or hiatus, whichever you want;

iu, ui: idem;

ia, ie, io, ua, uo, ue: idem;

Consonants

h: as in *house* (but it can be similarly pronounced as the Spanish "j" as well);

l: as in *long* (if some Japanese can't pronounce it, they can use Japanese "r");

m: as in *mother*;

n: as in *no*, but before "g" it is a velar nasal stop;

t/d: as in *table* or *dice*; you can pronounce *t* as *d* and vice-versa, but preferably without the common aspiration of *table*;

p/b: as in *pig* or *big*; you can pronounce *p* as *b* and vice-versa, but preferably without the common aspiration of *pig*;

k/g: as in *kart* or *girl*; you can pronounce *k* as *g* and vice-versa, but preferably without the common aspiration of *kart*;

f/v: as in *five* or *vanilla*; you can pronounce *f* as *v* and vice-versa; those who speak Spanish (and others language which doesn't have sound /v/) should never pronounce *v* as *b* or *w*: you'd better use /f/;

x/j: as *sh* in *share* or *s* in *measure*; it is used to abbreviate or omit sounds; that is to say: it corresponds to the English apostrophe;

Note: These five pairs above are "unvoiced/voiced consonant pairs". Each two consonants of a pair have exactly the same articulation, with the only difference that the first one is pronounced without vibration of the vocal folds. To realize it, pronounce "tah" and "dah" with your finger in your throat and note that your throat vibrate **before you pronounce the vowel** only in "dah". In **mondilange**, you should preferably use unvoiced consonants (t, p, k, f, x) in the word begining

and the voiced ones in the middle.

'*ng, nd, mb*: only these three consonantal encounters are possible;

Making words

Rules for making words

In general, every word in *mondilange* ends in one of the forms (1), (2), (3) or (4) below, where

"C" is for *consonant*,

"V" is for the vowels *a*, *e* and *o*,

"v" is for vowels *i* and *u*,

"w" is for any vowel, and

"X" is either for **x** or for **j**:

(1) CCw: memba, tongo, penimbu, etc.;

(2) vVCw*: nuova, lievo, tiede, toliedi;

(3) vVX: miex, tuox, honioj, etc.;

(4) CVv: holai, sai, kalei, nau, etc.

***: The consonant in (2) is never "n" nor "m", where they have to be substituted by "nd" and "mb", representing so case (1).**

Making compound words

Compound words may be created linking two single words of types (1-2) by means of choosing "i" as the final vowel of the first one. For instance, **suade** means "water", while **lande** means "land". So, **suadilande** is a word created from them. Its meaning depends on context and should be defined by its creator, but it might mean "land of water".

If the first used single word is in form 3 or 4, an **additional** "i" is used after it. For example, if you join the words **sai** and **suade**, you would have **saiisuade**. That's

the only possible way of putting two equal vowels together, so you should pronounce each one separately: "sai-i-suade" (hyphen is always optional anywhere).

Stress, tone and rhythm

Mondilange has no defined stress, tone nor rhythm. This means that you can choose which syllable you want to stress, which you want to speak treble or bass, and the speed you want to speak.

Exercise

Try to form some words following these rules.

Making sentences

Verbs

Mondilange sentences are based on the verbs.

liova: *to love*

Who loves?

mieme tai: "I do" = "I love."

Who do you love?

tiode hoi: "You are" = "It's you I love."

liova mieme tai tiode hoi

I love you.

Well, **tai** is a particle that follows the agent and **hoi** follows the direct object (the "patient"). Anyway, If you don't like particles, feel free to omit them, but keep in mind that the subject must always be before the direct object:

mieme liova tiode

OR

mieme tiode liova

OR

liova mieme tiode

OR

miex liova tiox (abbreviations)

Choose which looks more romantic for you.

Some vocabulary

Greeting

halohai: hi!

Hawaiian "aloha" (love, peace, etc.) - English "hello" - Spanish "hola"

tigabai: bye!

Yorùbá "ogábò" - Italian "ciao" - Portuguese "tchau"

Pronouns

mieme: I/me;

Proto-indo-european "-mi", European "me", "mi", "mia", etc.

tiode: you/thou;

Proto-indo-european "-te", South-American Tupi "nde", English "thou", "thee", Thai "than" (polite) and "thoe" (informal), Spanish/Portuguese "tu" and "ti", Spanish "usted", Portuguese "você", etc.

liale: he/she/it;

Swahili "a-", "wa-", Spanish "él" (m) and "ella" (f), Portuguese "ele" (m) and "ela" (f), etc.

Sex

Few words in Mondilange are exclusive for males or females. If you want to make clear the sex, use the following words:

hiane: *female/woman*

Japanese "onna".

Hebraic "hannah", meaning something like "grace".

Also Japanese "hana/ohana" for flower.

tuoge: *male/man*

Japanese "otoko".

Nordic "Thor", English "thunder + rock".

liale hiana

It's a female. = She's a female.

mieme tuoga liova liale hiana

I-man love her-woman. (In case you want to be clear.)*

or, for women,

mieme hiana liova liale tuoga (Idem.)

Alternatively, you can use **tuogimieme** instead of **mieme tuoga**:

tuokimieme liova hianiliale

- **mieme tuoka liova liale tuoga** and **mieme hiana liova liale hiana** are also possible, but, for non-sexual love (son/dad, daughter/mom) you'd better not specify the sex.

Verbs

liova: to love

Hawaiian "aloha", English "love".

monka: to eat/to drink

Latin "manducare", Old French "mangier", Tokipona "moku", Esperanto "mangxi",

nenda: to go

Swahili "nen.da": to go.

Nouns

tiehe: soil, ground, earth

Spanish "tierra". Besides, sound of "t" reminds me earth. Please confirm it! :-D

suade: water

Arabic "sawāhil", English "water", onomatopoeia "shwah...".

huahe: air

Greek-European "aer", onomatopoeia (aspiration ~ wind).

fuege: fire

Spanish "fuego", onomatopoeia "fffff...".

kuoge: rock

English, onomatopoeia ("k" reminds rock breaking, don't you think?).

miade: wood

Spanish "madera", Portuguese "madeira".

lande: place, region, territory, earth

English.

lohiane: flower

Japanese "ohana", Latin "florum", Proto-indo-european "bhlo-".

kelonge: person

Proto-khoisan "khwe", "Australian Aborigine" Gupapuyŋu "yolŋu".

Regency

As Lojban, Mondilange is centered in the verbs (in Lojban, they don't really say "verbs"). Each verb has a structure of "slots" that may be filled with words. For instance, the verb **liova** ("to love") has two slots: the subject and the object. Other verbs may have more slots: when you say the verb "to give", you have to specify a subject, a direct object and an indirect object.

mieme tiala suade tou tiode

I give water to you.

This could be written more completely as

tiala tai mieme hoi suade tou tiode

So, the verb **tiala** (to give; Latin "dare") has three slots identified by three particles (technally they are *adpositions* [prepositions or postpositions]) that must be followed by their "arguments" (words). You can always omit the particles **tai** and **hoi** by putting the subject always before the direct object. If you want to use Mondilange as a logical language, the other particles can be omitted only if

(1) the order of the "arguments" must be left unchanged;

(2) the "arguments" of distinct verbs must be separated by conjunctions or appropriate particles.

An "argument" of a verb can be another verb. For instance, the verb **sanga** means "to be on [some surface]"

Chinese mandarim postposition "shàng": on.

lohiane sanga tuabe

The flower is on the table.

Latin "tabula": table

The verb **kieda**, from spanish "queda", means *to stay, to lie*,

lohiane kieda sanga tuabe

[The] flower lies on the table.

piage piena suade

[The] fish is in [the] water.

piage: Tupi *pira*, Latin *piscis*.

piena: Guarani postposition "pe". Latin and many european languages "in", "en", "em", etc.

Family

miame: mom, mother

"Mama" in so many languages around the world.

puabe: dad, father

"Baba" or "bapu" in many African and Indian languages. "Padre" in Spanish, "pai" in Portuguese, etc.

membe: child (son/daughter)

South-american Guarani word "memby" for son or daughter. In Guarani, the mother says "memby" (y=vocal gutural), but the father says "rajy" for daughter and "ra'y" for son.

nonge: brother/sister

Thai "nong" for younger brother or sister.

Conjunctions

Conjunctions are used to connect phrases. By default, conjunctions end in "o".

kondo: *on the contrary, however, but*

kuazo: *because*

Modifiers, Specifiers, Negation and Tenses

Modifiers and specifiers are similar to adverbs: they change or restrict the sense of a verb.

Negation

mieme handa

I'm handsome/beautiful.

handa is the "verb" *to be beautiful*.

mieme nionau handa

I'm not handsome.

Negation is made by the modifier **nionau** (it means "no", naturally) before the verb.

handa looks both like *handsome* and like *hannah* (hebraic "female" grace).

Tenses

mieme sai handa

I'm handsome now.

I'm beautiful in the present.

The specifier **sai** indicates the time: present.

mieme nau-sai handa

I'm beautiful right now.

The specifier **nau** means "precisely", "just a point in time"...

tiode piehi-sai handa

You were beautiful.

liale pondi-sai handa

She will be beautiful.

tiode hei handa

You have been beautiful. [from an undetermined past moment to an undetermined future moment]

tiode piehi-hei handa

You had been beautiful. [from an undetermined past moment to some past moment]

tiode pondi-hei handa

You will have been beautiful. [from an undetermined past moment to some future moment]

tiode fou handa

You starts being beautiful.

tiode piehi-fou handa

You have started being beautiful.

tiode pondi-fou handa

You are going to start being beautiful.

Articles

Definite article: **lai**

Indefinite article: **neu**

Plurality

Plural can be formed by the modifier **hoi** before the noun.

lohiane: *flower*

hoi lohiane: *flowers*

Other similar useful words for countable things are **sohoi** (*some*), **lehoi** (*a little of*), **nihoi** (*few*, "not enough") **pahoi** ("enough") and **tahoi** (*a lot of*).

Intensity

There are particles to specify intensity of the words:

lai hiane handa

The woman is beautiful.

lai hiane tadau handa

The woman is very beautiful.

lai hiane ledau handa

The woman is a little beautiful.

lai hiane nidau handa

The woman is not beautiful enough.

lai hiane padau handa

The woman is beautiful enough.

lai hiane nionau handa

The woman is not beautiful.

lai hiane kondau handa

The woman is the opposite of beautiful.'

OR

The woman is ugly. (You'd better never use this sentence.)

It's an evolution in relation to the Esperanto prefix "mal-". In Esperanto, "bela" is "beautiful" and "malbela" is "ugly". "Varma" is "hot" and "malvarma" is "cold". "Alta" is "tall" and "malalta" is "short". However, some physicist can argue that "cold" is not really the opposite of "hot", but it's only "few hot". "Short" could be "few tall" as well. To avoid all these discussions, Mondilange has precise modifiers to be more specific if you want to.

Comparatives

hokieu ... kieu

as ... as

lenieu ... kieu

less ... than

tadieu ... kieu

more ... than

Examples:

lai lohiane hokieu handa kieu lai piege

The flower is as beautiful as the fish.

lai lohiane lenieu handa kieu lai piege

The flower is less beautiful than the fish.

lai lohiane tadieu handa kieu lai piege

The flower is more beautiful than the fish.

Usage of comparatives are quite general for verbs:

tiode hokieu kieda kieu mieme

You stay like I do.

Superlative

tiode handa

You're beautiful.

tiode makuama handa

You're the most beautiful.

Also:

tiode meniema handa

You're the less beautiful.

Numbers

1: **hionu**

Proto-indo-european /*Hoi(H)nos/, English "one", Latin "unnus"; Dravidian languages: Tamil /onru/, Tulu /onji/, Kannada /ondu/, Malayalam /onnu/, Kurukh /oṇṭa/.

2: **tuobu**

Proto-altaic /tybu/. Proto-indo-european /*duoh$_1$/.

3: **tiezu**

PIE (Proto-indo-european) /*treies/.

4: **kuadu**

PIE /*k^{w}etuōr/.

5: **kiegu**

PIE /*penk^{w}e/. Japanese "go".

6: **suazu**

PIE /*s(w)eḱs/. Sound "a" is in 7 in most Dravidian languages.

7: **siebu**

PIE /*séptm/.

8: **huogu**

PIE /*oḱtou/.

9: **niobu**

Latin "novem", Italian and Portuguese "nove", Spanish "nueve", PIE /*(h$_1$)néun/.

10: **pandu**

Telugu "padi".

11: **pandu hionu**

12: **pandu tuobu**

(...)

20: **tuobu pandu**

21: **tuobu pandu hionu**

22: **tuobu pandu tuobu**

(...)

30: **tiezu pandu**

40: **kuadu pandu**

(...)

100: **kendu**

Latin "centum".

200: **tuobu kendu**

300: **tiezu kendu**

(...)

1,000: **pandu kendu** (ten hundreds, naturally 10,00)

2,000: **tuobu pandu kendu**

(...)

10,000: **mombu** (1,0000)

Japanese "man". It could be "mandu", but it would be too similar to "pandu" (10).

100,000: **pandu mombu** (10,0000)

1,000,000: **kendu mombu** (100,0000)

(...)

This system is much more beautiful than the West's scheme, but, OK!, I'm going to give you some options anyway:

1,000: **milielu**

2,000: **tuobu milielu**

(...)

1,000,000: **milionu = hionu milionu**

2,000,000: **tuobu milionu**

3,000,000: **tiezu milionu**

(...)

1,000,000,000: **bilionu**

1,000,000,000,000: **tilionu**

1,000,000,000,000,000: **kalionu**

1,000,000,000,000,000,000: **kilionu**

It's enough! If you want more, use scientific notation.

Colors

tokange: white

Inuit "kak..." ("kakortok" in fact, but all colors end in "tok" there).

Spanish "blanco".

tonuege: black

Swahili "nyeusi", spanish "negro".

tofiage: yellow

Tuareg "awragh", Esperanto "flava".

tokuobe: green

German "grün", Tupi "obi".

toluoze: blue

tokiade: red

toliaze: purple

tobione: brown

togiehe: gray

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